



Holy Trinity

Half-Term Update

Spring Term 2018



Dear Parents,

The first half-term of 2018 has flown by and we are heading into half term after another busy few weeks. Following on from our Christmas newsletter, this update has more information about results, academy conversion, Ofsted updates and forthcoming events.

We issue the newsletters and updates to our pupils, for them to bring home; if you don't receive a copy, you can find the latest edition, along with back issues, on the newsletters page of the school website. If you would like to receive an emailed copy, please ensure that we have your email address for this purpose.

Best wishes and God Bless,

Anna Dickson

Key Stage 4 Results

The final validated Key Stage 4 results were published recently. Not all of the details are available yet, but I wanted to update you with what has been released so far. Our progress 8 score is just above the national average. We were in line with, or just above the national average in every measure at key stage 4.

In our Ofsted report it was stated that the gaps between different groups of students were wide. These have narrowed significantly and last year were narrower than the national gaps. You can see the validated results on our website, just go to the homepage, click on 'school performance' and select the performance tables page.

Progress 8 score	Holy Trinity 2017	National 2017
All pupils	0.04	-0.03
Disadvantaged pupils	-0.09	-0.40
Low Prior Attainment	-0.10	Not yet available
Middle Prior Attainment	0.01	
High Prior Attainment	0.15	
Boys	-0.09	-0.24
Girls	0.13	0.18

Academy Conversion

We continue to work with the diocese and the local authority to prepare for our school to become an academy.

The process for academy conversion is complex and because of this, the date has been moved several times. The current target is for the school to convert on 1st April 2018.

I will continue to keep you informed, as things progress.



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Website: <http://www.holytrinitybarnsley.org/>

Ofsted Updates

I will continue to update you on our actions since the Ofsted report through the end of term and half termly newsletters. Any significant updates will be given as they happen.

In the meantime, our website is regularly updated with information, you can find the latest school performance data, information and news for parents, as well as our school calendar and details of our Governing Body and school policies.

Parents' Coffee Morning

Thank you to the parents who attended the coffee morning on 12th January. This gave us a very useful opportunity to discuss how we can work together and how parents can help and support their children in education and at school.

As you will know, we use the School Gateway platform. This is a very useful tool for checking your child's timetable, achievement and behaviour points, lunches and an easy way to send and receive messages to and from school.

As a result of the discussions at our coffee morning, we are now publishing your child's report on the school gateway. If your child has received a report this term you will be able to access it electronically through the school gateway.

Parents also requested more information about achievement points and behaviour points. We are looking at how we can do this.

If you are not able to access the **school gateway**, please contact school. You will need to supply us with your e mail address.

Our next coffee morning is at 9.00 on Friday 23rd February, please join us, if you can.

Forthcoming Events

Here are the important dates for next half term...

Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February	School Closure – half term holiday
Monday 19 th February	INSET Day
Tuesday 20 th February	Y8 reports to parents
Wednesday 21 st February	Y9 Options Assembly
Wednesday 21 st February	Y9 parents' evening
Friday 23 rd February	Parents' Coffee Morning (9.00am)
Tuesday 27 th February	Y9 Options Evening
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day
Friday 2 nd March	Y11 receive personal exam GCSE timetables
Friday 9 th March	Mothers' Day Liturgies
Monday 12 th March – Friday 23 rd March	Y10 Work experience
Wednesday 14 th March	Primary Parents' evening
Friday 16 th March	AC Day
Thursday 22 nd March	Y11 reports to parents
Thursday 22 nd March	Year 3/Year 4 Easter Concert
Monday 26 th March – Friday 6 th April	School Closure – Easter Holiday
Monday 9 th April	INSET Day

Teaching and Learning

All teams in both the primary and secondary phase are carrying out research and jointly planning lessons in order to develop teaching and learning within their teams.

As you will remember, I told you in our Christmas newsletter that as part of our ongoing developments in teaching and learning, 35 of our Year 3 children had stayed after school for an extra maths lesson, which proved very useful for everyone involved. Further to this, 20 of our Year 7 students, have also stayed after school to take part in a maths lesson based around problem solving skills. The students worked really hard throughout the hour-long lesson and demonstrated their amazing maths skills, alongside excellent problem solving and group working skills. They also presented the solutions to their problems.

The lesson was watched by the whole of the secondary maths department, the senior leadership team, heads of department from across the secondary phase and some of our primary leaders. Bob Sawyer, the Director of Schools for the Hallam Diocese, also joined us. In preparation for the session, the maths team carried out research into the development of maths skills through problem solving and then jointly planned the lesson. The students, the maths team and all the observers benefitted greatly from this process. I would like to thank the maths team for their hard work and contribution to the development of teaching and learning across the school.

In the Primary Phase, a group of our Foundation Stage children had an amazing time when they discovered an archaeological site in their outside area. They carried out an archaeological dig and discovered a dinosaur bone and horn. They then wrote about their findings.

Year 2 have been enjoying the fiction text of 'Highway Rat'. The teachers introduced Drama in the lesson to see whether this would enthuse the pupils, particularly boys, in their writing. Again, Key Stage 1 teachers worked together in the planning of the session and all watched the lesson. Well done to the team and to the pupils for their hard work.



Fundraising

Walk for Water

In the last newsletter, there was a report about Year 9 raising money for WaterAid, by each donating £1 and taking part in a 'Walk for Water' during form time. Poor sanitation is responsible for the spread of preventable diseases that are incredibly dangerous to children in poor countries.

Mr Fox received an email from WaterAid, thanking the students for their efforts.

We've received your donation and I can't thank you enough!

Health. Happiness. Safety. A chance at a better education or a better job. It's amazing what clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene can bring. And that's the gift that you've just given. Your donation will help somebody change their life for good.

Again, a huge well done to everyone who took part and helped to make a difference to the lives of people who don't have the basics that we are lucky enough to take for granted.



Baby Basics

This year, our Lenten Charity fundraising will be for the local charity 'Baby Basics'.

The charity works with midwives, health visitors and other professionals to help families in need and vulnerable new mums. They provide starter packs, containing essential equipment and supplies; so if you have anything that your baby has outgrown, or is in good condition and no

longer required, please consider passing it on, so it can be re-used. We will be providing more information when we launch the campaign after the half term holiday.

The charity desperately needs; Moses baskets, first-size nappies, wipes, maternity pads, baby shampoo and toiletries, towels, blankets and new-born clothing.



Other News

The Reds in the Community scheme, from Barnsley FC, is running **FREE** sports coaching sessions for anyone aged 8 – 19, at school on **Tuesday** evenings.

There are two sessions every week:

5:30pm – 6:30pm – Ages 8 – 13

6:30pm – 7:30pm – Ages 14 – 19

If you would like more information, please contact Reds in the Community directly, on 01226 211333.

We were also very happy to welcome Barnsley striker Mamadou Thiam and winger Ryan Hedges to our primary phase recently. The pupils were very excited and asked lots of questions.



FREE sports coaching sessions for **Males & Females** aged **8-19** at **HOLY TRINITY School** designed to help improve your football, sport and personal development.

Free Barnsley FC match tickets | Barnsley FC Player visits | Competitions | Volunteering opportunities

TUESDAYS
5:30pm - 6:30pm | Ages 8 - 13
6:30pm - 7:30pm | Ages 14 - 19

FIND OUT MORE
 TEL | 01226 211333
 EMAIL | community@barnsleyfc.co.uk
 WEB | barnsleyfccommunity.co.uk
North Area Council
 Barton East, Barton West, Old Town, St Helens



Please remember you can follow Holy Trinity on social media:

f www.bit.ly/holytrinityFB

t @HolyTrinity316